

DIPSACUS FULLONUM (DIPSACACEAE) AND VERBESINA WALTERI (ASTERACEAE), NEW TO TEXAS

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ABSTRACT

Dipsacus fullonum L. (Dipsacaceae) and *Verbesina walteri* Shinnery (Asteraceae) are reported as new to Texas.

RESUMEN

Se citan *Dipsacus fullonum* L. (Dipsacaceae) y *Verbesina walteri* Shinnery (Asteraceae) nuevas para Texas.

Continued fieldwork and herbarium study conducted by the authors have resulted in the following records of two species here reported as new to Texas. Neither species is included in the standard references treating the vascular plants of the state (Correll & Johnson 1970; Hatch et al. 1990; Johnston 1990; Jones et al. 1997), nor is the first mentioned species, which is from the area treated in *Shinnery & Mahler's Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas* (Diggs et al. 1999), included in that work.

***Dipsacus fullonum* L. (Dipsacaceae)**

TEXAS. Collin Co.: 3.0 mi W of Anna at jct. of U.S. Hwy 75 and FR 455, 30 Jun 2000, Singhurst 9379 (BAYLU, TEX).

Dipsacus fullonum, commonly called Fuller's teasel, is an erect, coarse, prickly biennial about 0.5–2(–3) m tall. The flowers are violet and borne in oblong-ovoid capitula 2–4 cm tall that are subtended by numerous linear to linear-lanceolate prickly involucral bracts 3–10 cm or more long. Gray (1895) mentions that *Dipsacus fullonum* has “awn-like tips of the rigid chaff [paleae] hooked at the end, which makes the teasel useful for carding woolen [sic] cloth; cultivated in central N.Y. for this purpose ...” Bobrov (1957), however, states that “because of the flexibility of the paleae, this plant [*D. fullonum*] is not used for napping in the woolen industry.” In commenting on the complicated nomenclature of the species, Bobrov (1957) notes that *D. fullonum* is a Linnean name that cannot be abolished because it is the type species of the genus, consequently the plant, “which is of no use to the textile industry, retains the [common] name Fuller's

teasel.” It is probable that the plant referred to by Gray (1895) as *D. fullonum* is actually *D. sativas* (L.) Honckeny.

The species is native to the Old World from Atlantic and central Europe to Asia Minor and Iran (Bobrov 1957). It has been reported from all of the contiguous states of the United States except Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Carolina (USDA, NRCS 1999). The plant normally occurs in waste places, rights-of-way, margins of cultivated fields, and similar areas. At the collection locality cited above, two “clumps” of the species were found in the immediate area. One consisted of about 20 stems originating from the same basal area while the other had the same growth form and approximately 35 stems. The occurrence of only two plants suggests that the species has only recently colonized the area.

Dipsacus fullonum is the second species of this Old World family to be introduced to Texas, the other being *Scabiosa atropurpurea* L., which is a garden escape becoming an invasive weed in north central Texas (Diggs et al. 1999). The following key distinguishes the two genera.

Plants prickly; heads 2–4 cm long; involucre bracts 3–10 cm long; corollas 4-lobed _____	Dipsacus
1. Plants not prickly; heads to about 1 cm long; involucre bracts to 1 cm long; corollas 5-lobed _____	Scabiosa

Verbesina walteri Shinnars (Asteraceae)

TEXAS. Jasper Co.: Floodplain of Walnut Run Creek near U.S. Hwy 96 ca. 2 mi S of jct. with U.S. Hwy. 190 in Jasper, 23 Sep 2000, *Holmes 10984 & Singhurst* (BAYLU, TEX). **Newton Co.:** Big Cow Creek at jct. with U.S. Hwy 190, W of Newton, 23 Sep 2000, *Holmes 11029 & Singhurst* (BAYLU, TEX); Big Cow Creek at jct. with FR 363, E of Bleakwood, 23 Sep 2000, *Holmes 11053 & Singhurst* (BAYLU).

Verbesina walteri is described by Cronquist (1980) as being “much like *V. alternifolia*, but the heads discoid, with white flowers.” *Verbesina alternifolia* has both ray and disc flowers that are yellow. Cronquist gives the distribution as South Carolina to Georgia and Louisiana, with outliers in the Piedmont Plateau of North Carolina and the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas. In their treatment of the family for Louisiana, Gandhi and Thomas (1989) considered the species to be widespread and abundant east of the Mississippi River but uncommon in the remainder of the state. The known Texas distribution is basically contiguous with the western distribution of the species in Beauregard, Vernon, and Sabine parishes, Louisiana, presented by Thomas and Allen (1996). At each of the locations mentioned in the list of exsiccatae, the species occurred in the flat floodplains in two or more “clumps” about 25–100 m or more distant from each other. Plants numbered from few (2–5) to 25 or more in each clump.

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